

IN THE SPECIFICATION

[0001] The present application is a continuation-in-part application of ~~United States~~U.S. Patent Application Serial Number ~~10/425,267~~ (filed April 29, 2003) ~~entitled "Wedge Plate Inserter/Impactor and Related Methods for Use in Implanting an Artificial Intervertebral Disc"~~, now U.S. Pat. 7,235,081 ("the '081 patent"), which is a continuation-in-part application of U.S. Patent Application Serial Number ~~10/282,356~~ (filed October 29, 2002) ~~entitled "Instrumentation and Methods For Use In Implanting an Artificial Intervertebral Disc"~~, now U.S. Pat. 7,169,182 ("the '182 patent"), which is a continuation-in-part application of U.S. Patent Application Serial Number ~~10/256,160~~ (filed September 26, 2002) ~~entitled "Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having Limited Rotation Using a Captured Ball and Socket Joint With a Solid Ball and Compression Locking Post"~~, now U.S. Pat. 6,989,032 ("the '032 patent"), which is a continuation-in-part application of U.S. Patent Application Serial Number ~~10/175,417~~ (filed June 19, 2002) ~~entitled "Artificial Intervertebral Disc Utilizing a Ball Joint Coupling"~~, which is a continuation-~~continuation-in-part~~ application of U.S. Patent Application Serial Number ~~10/151,280~~ (filed May 20, 2002) ~~entitled "Tension Bearing Artificial Disc Providing a Centroid of Motion Centrally Located Within an Intervertebral Space"~~, which is a continuation-in-part application of both U.S. Patent Number Applications ~~6,669,730~~ 09/970,479 (filed October 4, 2001) ~~entitled "Intervertebral Spacer Device Utilizing a Spirally Slotted Belleville Washer Having Radially Extending Grooves"~~, now U.S. Pat. 6,669,730 ("the '730 patent") as well as U.S. Patent Application Serial Number ~~10/140,153~~ (filed May 7, 2002) ~~entitled "Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having a Flexible Wire Mesh Vertebral Body Contact Element"~~ now abandoned, with 09/970479 being a continuation-in-part application of U.S. Patent

Application ~~Serial Number~~ 09/968,046 (filed October 1, 2001, now abandoned) ~~entitled "Intervertebral Spacer Device Utilizing a Belleville Washer Having Radially Extending Grooves",~~ now abandoned ^{10/140153} ~~and the latter~~ being a continuation-in-part application of both U.S. Patent Application 09/970,479 (filed October 4, 2001) ~~entitled "Intervertebral Spacer Device Utilizing a Spirally Slotted Belleville Washer Having Radially Extending Grooves",~~ now U.S. Pat. Patent Number 6,669,730 (~~the '730 patent~~) as well as U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 10/128,619 (filed April 23, 2002) ~~entitled "Intervertebral Spacer Having a Flexible Wire Mesh Vertebral Body Contact Element",~~ now U.S. Pat. 6,863,689 (~~"the '689 patent"~~) which is a continuation-in-part application of both U.S. Patent Number 6,607,559 Application 09/906,119 (filed July 16, 2001) ~~entitled "Tilted Intervertebral Distraction Spacers",~~ now U.S. Pat. 6,607,559 (~~"the '559 patent"~~) as well as U.S. Patent Number 6,673,113 Application 09/982,148 (filed October 18, 2001) ~~entitled "Intervertebral Spacer Device Having Arch Shaped Spring Elements",~~ now U.S. Pat. 6,673,113 (~~"the '113 patent"~~). All of the above mentioned applications are hereby incorporated by reference herein in their respective entireties.